(c) and (d) The 47 Handicrafts Marketing and Service Extension Centres have played an important role in facilitating development of handicrafts in the area under their jurisdiction and in guiding the weavers and craftsman. Keeping in view the vast areas that various centres spread all over the country have to cover, a proposal to open some more marketing Centres has been initiated.

From time to time, selected employees of Handicrafts Marketing and Service Extension Centres are trained in reputed institutions which facilitate in their helping the craftsmen.

Interim relief to closed textile mill workers

4724. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI RAMJI LAL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether TWRFs were set up by Government in pursuance of the statement of Textile Policy, 1985 to provide interim relief to all the workers rendered jobless due to the permanent closure of textile mills;

(b) whether this was explicitly mentioned in this scheme that this would not be applicable to the closed textile mills of public sector;

(c) if not, the justification for denying the relief under this scheme to the public sector workers on imaginary grounds; and

(d) the corrective measures being contemplated by Government to check the large scale misuse of funds on account of restricting its operation to the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (c) The Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund (TWRF) was set up in pursuance of Textile Policy Statement, 1985. Since its inception, benefits under the TWRF Scheme have been extended to the mills in the private sector only. The rationale for not covering Central or State PSUs under the Scheme is that respective Central/State Government(s) are expected to undertake measures for the welfare of workers affected by the closure of mills.

(d) Does not arise.

Revival package of BIC Limited

4725. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any revival package has been approved for reviving units of British India Corporation Limited;

(b) whether grievances of employees/staff members have been redressed;

(c) whether it is a fact that staff member/junior officers promoted to higher posts during 1990 have not yet been given the due placement for want of administrative action; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The grievances of the employees/staff members received from time to time are looked into and redressed to the extent possible keeping in mind the factor that BIC is a sick company.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Development of handicrafts

4726. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposal/schemes from State Governments for the development of handicrafts;

(b) whether Government have so far accorded approval to these schemes/proposal;

(c) if so, the details thereof (State-wise) and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to set up new handicrafts marketing and service extension Centres in the country; if so, the details thereof till date, State-wise; and

(e) by when, these are likely to start functioning and budgetary allocations if any, made during 1998-99 for development of handicrafts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (c) No schemes/proposals have been received by the Government from any State Government during the year 1997-98. However, proposals were received from various State Handicrafts Corporation for the development of handicrafts. The details of such proposals received during 1997-98 and action taken thereon is as per enclosed statement. (*See* below)

The main reasons for not according approval to some proposals is attributed to the fact that they are either received incomplete or utilisation certificate are pending against the concerned Corporation. Moreover, a few proposals could not be considered due to paucity of funds in some schemes and the same will be considered for approval during the current financial year.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to set up new Handicrafts Marketing and Service Extension Centres at Aizwal (Mizoram), Baroda or Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh), Trivandraum (Kerala) and Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh). The starting of these Centres is dependent upon the receipt of all the required approvals.

An allocation of Rs. 55.00 crores (Plan) has been made during 1998-99 for development of handicrafts in the country.

Statement

Sl.-No.	Name of the State/ UT	Name of the State Corporation	No. of proposal received	No. of proposal approved	Amount Released in Rs. lakhs
1.	Andhra Pradesh		Andhra Pradesh Handicrafts Development Corporation Hyderabad.	7	4	19.46
2.	Assam	(i)	Assam Government Marketing Corporation, Guwahati.	5	5	15.26
3.	Delhi		Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation	1	1	2.25
4.	Goa		Goa Handicrafts Rural & Small Scale Industries Development Corporation, Panaji	2	2	1.69
5.	Gujarat	(i)	Gujarat State Handicrafts Development Corporation.	10	7	46.57
		(ii)	Gujarat Woman Economic Development Corporation.	1	1	1.50

	(iii)	Gujarat Sheep and Wool Development Corporation.	2.	2.	2.41
6.	Haryana	Haryana State Handicrafts & Handlooms Corporation, Chandigarh.	4	4	16.32
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh State Handicraft and Handloom Corporation Ltd., Shimla.	7	1	2.20
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	J&K Handicrafts (S&E) Corporation, Srinagar.	2	2	16.81
9.	Karnataka	Karnataka State Handicrafts Development Corporation.	4	4	16.09
10.	Kerala	Kerala Handicrafts Development Corporation.	2	2	10.34
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh Hastashilp Nigam Ltd., Bhopal.	8	6	44.31
12.	Manipur	Manipur Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation, Imphal	3	3	21.24
13.	Mizoram	Mizoram Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Ltd., Aizwal.	2	2	6.53
14.	Nagaland	Nagaland Handicrafts & Handloom Development Corporation, Dimapur.	5	5	27.37
15.	Orissa	Orissa State Handicrafts Cooperative Corporation.	6	6	48.06
16.	Punjab	Punjab State Small Industries Corporation, Chandigarh.	5	4	7.16
17.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation, Jaipur.	3	2	5.69
18.	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation, Chennai.	3	3	7.70
19.	Tripura	Tripura Handicrafts & Handloom Corporation, Agartala.	11	10	41.44
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh Export Corporation, Kanpur.	10	4	17.01
21.	West Bengal	West Bengal Handicrafts Development Corporation, Calcutta.	10	9	24.53